

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 03486 090913Z

15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 /033 W

----- 055584

P R 090850Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1626

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 3486

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CZ

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CZECHOSLOVAK-US AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT EXTENSION

REFS A. STATE 298015(NOTAL) B. PRAGUE 3301(NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY FULLY AGREES WITH PROPOSAL OF DEPARTMENT AND CAB (REF A) THAT CURRENT US-CZECHOSLOVAK AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT (ATA) BE EXTENDED FOR SIX MONTHS BEYOND PRESENT DEC 31, 1976 EXPIRATION DATE TO ALLOW PAN AM AND CSA TIME TO WORK OUT VIABLE COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENT. HOWEVER, WE PREFER NOT TO SIGNAL THIS INTENT TO GOC FOR ANOTHER FEW DAYS, UNTIL AIRLINE TALKS WHICH WERE SCHEDULED TO START IN LONDON DEC. 7 HAVE PROGRESSED FURTHER. WE HOPE THAT, BY KEEPING CZECHOSLOVAKS UNCERTAIN ABOUT THIS A BIT LONGER, WE MAY HELP STRENGTHEN PANAM'S NEGOTIATING LEVERAGE. (FYI: LONDON TALKS MAY HAVE BEEN A DAY LATE IN BEGINNING SINCE 4 CSA OFFICIALS FROM PRAGUE DID NOT OBTAIN THEIR BRITISH VISAS UNTIL LATE DEC 6).

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLS ADVISE: (A) WHETHER EMBASSY MAY PROPOSE TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAT ATA BE EXTENDED FOR SIX MONTHS BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES; (B) WHETHER WE MAY PROPOSE THIS AROUND DEC. 14 OR 15 OR AFTER LONDON AIRLINE TALKS ADJOURN, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER; AND (C) WHAT WERE RESULTS OF CSA-PANAM LONDON TALKS.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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